



## Climate and conflicts: The security risks of global warming

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### Abstract:

Since the publication of the fourth assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in 2007, the securitization of global warming has reached a new level. Numerous public statements and a growing research literature have discussed the potential security risks and conflicts associated with climate change. This article provides an overview of this debate and introduces an assessment framework of climate stress, human security and societal impacts. Key fields of conflict will be addressed, including water stress, land use and food security, natural disasters and environmental migration. A few regional hot spots of climate security will be discussed, such as land-use conflicts in Northern Africa; floods, sea-level rise and human security in Southern Asia; glacier melting and water insecurity in Central Asia and Latin America; water conflicts in the Middle East; climate security in the Mediterranean; and the potential impact on rich countries. Finally, concepts and strategies will be considered to minimize the security risks and move from conflict to cooperation in climate policy.

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### Resource Description

#### Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Security, Food/Water Security, Human Conflict/Displacement, Human Conflict/Displacement

**Extreme Weather Event:** Flooding

**Food/Water Security:** Agricultural Productivity

#### Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

#### Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

**Non-United States:** Africa, Asia, Europe, Central/South America

**African Region/Country:** African Region

**Other African Region:** Northern Africa

**Asian Region/Country:** Other Asian Region

**Other Asian Region:** Southern Asia; Central Asia; Middle East

**European Region/Country:** European Region

**Other European Region:** Mediterranean

**Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation):** 

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

A focus of content

**Health Impact:** 

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Health Outcome Unspecified

**Mitigation/Adaptation:** 

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

**Population of Concern:** A focus of content

**Population of Concern:** 

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status

**Other Vulnerable Population:** Malnourished

**Resource Type:** 

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

**Timescale:** 

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

**Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:** 

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content